

To:
Cc: R8EISC[R8EISC@epa.gov]
From: Brogden, Rose
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 4:01:26 PM
Subject: Re:...long and sordid history... Form submission from: Emergency Response to Gold King Mine Release Contact Us About Emergency Response to the Gold King Mine Release form

Hello,

The US EPA has prepared the following information resource:

EPA is committed to working closely with response agencies and state and local officials to ensure the safety of citizens, respond to concerns and to evaluate impact to water contaminated by the Gold King Mine Release. EPA is sharing information as quickly as possible with the public as experts work to evaluate any effects the spill may have on drinking water, public health, agriculture, fish and wildlife. Please see our website for the latest information: <http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine>
Regular updates will be posted as they are available.
EPA Hotline: 844-607-9700 (toll-free)

From: drupal_admin@epa.gov <drupal_admin@epa.gov> on behalf of EPA <drupal_admin@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 6:17 AM
To: R8EISC
Subject: Form submission from: Emergency Response to Gold King Mine Release Contact Us About Emergency Response to the Gold King Mine Release form

Submitted on 08/13/2015 2:17AM

Submitted values are:

Name:
Email:

Comments:
Part One

Your statement on how this event occurred avoids discussing the long and sordid history here. If you need some more history might I recommend Chapter C of "Integrated Investigations of Environmental Effects of Historical Mining in the Animas River Watershed, San Juan County, Colorado". Edited by Stanley E. Church, Paul von Guerard, and Susan E. Finger, USGS, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 2008.

Chapter C is a full 50-page history of the entire mining district and contains a lot of interesting history as well as dozens of photos, as well as the background history of what got us to this point too, though it does not include the settlement between the State and the owner of Sunnyside Gold that resulted in the American Tunnel being plugged in 1997.

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/pp/1651/>

However, there is a good accounting of the settlement and subsequent history contained in this 2005 Westword news item.

<http://www.westword.com/news/what-lies-beneath-5086257>

Now you have conspiracy theorists trying to blame the whole thing on the EPA, and about half of what this "retired professional geologist" from Farmington, NM has said is correct, except he is new to the area and he doesn't know all the sordid history.

In-fact, everything he said from "Here's the scenario that will occur..." (paragraph #3 all the way to "Hallelujah") is correct and is the same thing that I have been saying, as plugging the American Tunnel in 1997 just backed-up the effluent until it reached the Red & Bonita in 2006 (even though it wasn't connected underground to either the Gold King nor the Sunnyside mines).

<http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2015-08-12/did-epa-intentionally-poison-animas-river-secure-superfund-money#comment-form>

Nor did the backup stop at the Red & Bonita Mine either, as it continued to backup further uphill until it reached the Gold King and the Mogul mines.